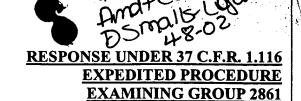


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Docket No. 448563/0163 LR:DLS:JFD

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Minoru Usui et al.

Art Unit: 2861

Application No.: 09/312,073

Examiner: M. Nghiem

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Commissioner for Patents

Box AF

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

In reply to the Office Action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office mailed on October 17, 2001, the time for response to which is extended up to and including February 19, 2002, by a petition for a one-month extension of time submitted herewith (February 17th falling on a Sunday, and February 18th being a National Holiday), applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the following revisions and remarks.

> Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on (Date) February 19, 2002 Typed or printed name of person signing this certificat James Dobrow Signature:

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